

Group Art Unit: 3627
Examiner: Lugo, C.

Atty. Ref.: USUI-12N

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shoichiro Usui
App. No. : 09/731,170
Filed : December 6, 2000
For : HIGH-PRESSURE METAL PIPE HAVING CONNECTING HEAD
AND METHOD FORMING THE CONNECTING HEAD AS WELL
AS SLEEVE WASHER FOR THE CONNECTING HEAD

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRAWING CHANGES

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Sir:

This request is submitted concurrently with an Amendment that addresses issues raised in the Office Action of February 6, 2002. Counsel has realized that original FIGS. 6-8 show only subject matter that is admitted to the prior art. As a result, the sheet of drawings attached to this request shows FIGS. 6-8 annotated with red ink to identify each of the figures as "PRIOR ART". Approval of this proposed change is requested. Formal drawings that incorporate this change will be filed upon allowance of the claims.

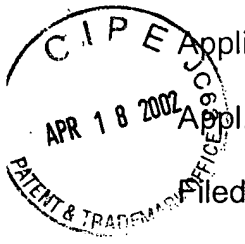
Respectfully submitted,

Gerald E. Hespos
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Date: *APRIL 11, 2002*

*Approved Drawing Change
C944 5-16-02*



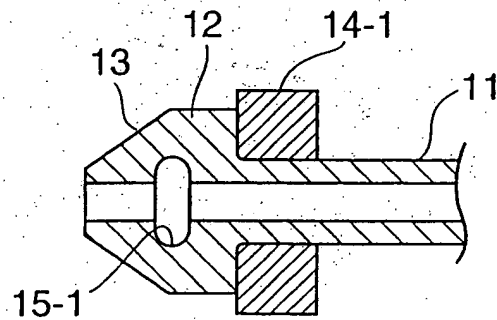


Fig. 6 ("PRIOR ART")

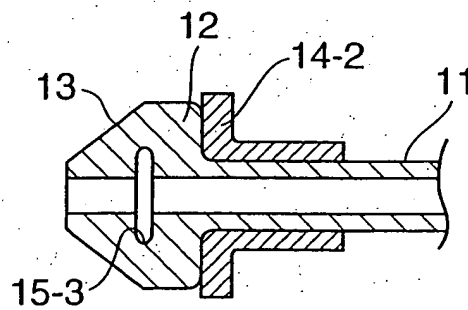


Fig. 7 ("PRIOR ART")

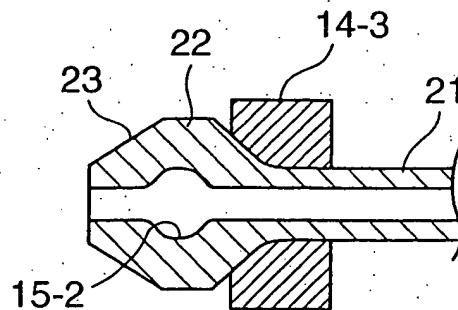


Fig. 8 ("PRIOR ART")